

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 RABAT 06195 221903Z

66

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-10 /085 W

----- 128336

R 221736Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7265

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L RABAT 6195

KUWAIT PASS BAGHDAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PBOR MO SS SP MR AG

SUBJECT: SAHARA DEVELOPMENTS

1. SUMMARY: IRAQI FONMIN'S VISIT PLAYED UP WHILE
SUBSTANCE OF GUEDIRA MISSION TO ALGIERS UNDER WRAPS.
SAUDI SUPPORT AGAIN UNDERLINED. GOM REACTING MILDLY
TO ALGERIAN ACTIVITY WHILE HIGHLIGHTING ITS ACTIVITIES IN
SAHARA AND FURTHER "DECLARATIONS OF ALLEGIANCE"
FROM SAHRAOUI. END SUMMARY.

2. HAMMADI VISIT: GOM PLAYED IRAQI FONMIN HAMMADI'S
VISIT FOR ALL IT WORTH IN TERMS OF SOLIDARITY ON THE SAHARA.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 RABAT 06195 221903Z

HAMMADI HAD 45 MINUTE TETE-A-TETE WITH KING HASSAN AND

LATER REPORTEDLY SAID TWO HELD "IDENTICAL VIEWS" ON ALL QUESTIONS DISCUSSED. ALSO SAID SADDAM HUSSEIN SCHEDULED ARRIVE HERE SOON, ACCORDING TO PRESS. HAMMADI FETED AT LUNCH BY KING AND DINNER BY FONMIN LARAKI, WHO PRIVATELY REMARKED HAMMADI NOT ATTEMPTING SAHARA MEDIATION AT THIS TIME (SEPTEL). HAMMADI LEFT FOR NOUAKCHOTT DEC. 20.

3. GUEDIRA MISSION: SUDDEN GUEDIRA VISIT TO ALGERIA (ALGIERS 3630) REPORTED HERE ONLY ON DEC. 20, ALSO WITH NO DETAILS ON HIS TALKS WITH BOUMEDIENE. WE HEAR GUEDIRA TRAVELLED BY PRIVATE MYSTERE JET, IN COMPANY THREE COLONELS FROM PALACE. GUEDIRA INTERESTING CHOICE FOR THE MISSION. SOME OBSERVERS SPECULATE HE CHOSEN BECAUSE HIS PAST POLITICAL CLOUT AND PRESENT LOW PROFILE ON SAHARA QUESTION MAY HAVE MADE HIM MORE PALATABLE EMISSARY TO BOUMEDIENE. DEFENSE ADMINISTRATION SOURCE SUBSEQUENTLY PRIVATELY REMARKED THAT CONTACT SEEMED TO HAVE COME TO NOTHING.

4. SAUDIS HANG IN: SEMI-OFFICIAL PRESS DEC. 22 ALSO PLAYED UP MOST RECENT BOOST FROM SAUDIS. RETURNING FROM MECCA PILGRIMAGE PREVIOUS DAY AT HEAD OF OFFICIAL GOM DELEGATION, HABOUS MINISTER DEY OULD SIDI BABA SAID KING KHALED TOLD GROUP THAT "MOROCCAN VICTORY WAS VICTORY FOR SAUDI ARABIA, ARABS AND ISLAMIC WORLD." PRESS ALSO REPORTED THAT SAHARA DISPUTE PLACED AT KUWAITI REQUEST ON AGENDA OF ARAB INTERPARLIAMENTARY MEETING IN ABU DHABI. REPORT INDICATED NO ALGERIANS WOULD BE PRESENT.

5. ALGERIAN RELATIONS: EXPULSION OF MOROCCAN RESIDENTS -- ILLEGAL OR OTHERWISE -- FROM ALGERIA GOING DOWN HARD HERE BUT SEMI-OFFICIAL PRESS COVERAGE HAS BEEN RESTRAINED IN PAST FEW DAYS AND GOM SEEMS TO BE LETTING ON IT WILL NOT RECIPROCATATE. L'OPINION (ISTIQLAL) REPORTED DEC.21 THAT NUMBER OF DEPORTEES HAD REACHED NEARLY 8,000. FEED-BACK FROM OUJDA AREA INDICATES GOM MAKING SERIOUS EFFORT TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE RELIEF SERVICES.

6. OPPOSITION PRESS STILL CARRYING ON VAST BULK OF ANTI-ALGERIAN CAMPAIGN, WITH DEPORTEES AS LATEST AMMUNITION. ISTIQLAL PRESS NOW CHARACTERIZING ALGERIAN LEADERSHIP AS CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 RABAT 06195 221903Z

"PARANOID, HYSTERICAL AND MEGALOMANIAC." IT ALSO BLAMED "CORRUPT" TECHNOCRATS, WHO "SMOKE HAVANAS WORTH HALF A WORKER'S DAILY WAGE" FOR THE UNDERNOURISHMENT OF THE ALGERIAN FELLAH.

7. GOM CARRIES ON: THE GOM'S OWN ENERGETIC SAHARA ACTIVITIES HAVE BEEN KEPT IN SPOTLIGHT AS WELL. DEC. 21 SEMI-OFFICIAL PRESS REVEALED THAT GROUP OF CIVIL SERVANTS

FROM VARIOUS MINISTRIES WOULD DEPART FOR SAHARA
IMMINENTLY TO TAKE UP FUNCTIONS THERE. KING RECEIVED
THEM, IN PRESENCE FULL CABINET, DEC.20. BENSOUDA,
LATELY PORTRAYED FLATLY AS GOVERNOR OF THE SAHARA, RECEIVED
WIDELY PUBLICIZED "EXPRESSIONS OF ATTACHMENT AND FIDELITY
TO KING" FROM R'GUIBAT TRIBE, BOU CRAA PHOSPHATE WORKERS
AND "SAHRAOUI DELEGATIONS FROM ALL REGIONS." FURTHER
PUBLIC RELATIONS PLOY WAS JUNKET TO EL AYOUN FOR PRESS
ATTACHES AND OTHER DIPLOMATS UNDER INFMIN AUSPICES
DEC. 22.

8. COMMENT: FOR NOW, THE GOM SEEMS TO BE INTERESTED
IN KEEPING THE MEDIATION OPTION AS OPEN AS ITS DIFFERENCES
WITH ALGERIA WILL ALLOW. IT HAS APPARENTLY DECIDED THAT
ITS BEST COURSE IS TO COMBINE A PUBLICLY CONCILIATORY
ATTITUDE VIS-A-VIS ALGERIA WITH VIGOROUS CONSOLIDATION OF
ITS HOLD OVER THE SYMBOLICALLY IMPORTANT TOWNS AND THE
PHOSPHATE DEPOSITS AND CONTINUING THE TECHNICAL INTEGRATION
OF SAHARA INTO MOROCCO.

9. WE HAVE SEEN NO MENTION OF JEMAA IN PAST FEW DAYS
AND GOM SEEMS TO BE QUIETLY REDEFINING MEANING
OF "CONSULTATIONS" WHILE BUILDING UP BACKLOG OF TRIBAL "ALLEGIANCES"
IF ANY QUESTIONS ASKED IN FUTURE.
NEUMANN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, BOUNDARY CLAIMS, TERRITORIAL CLAIMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 DEC 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975RABAT06195
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750444-0621
From: RABAT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751219/aaaaaqdo.tel
Line Count: 140
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29 MAY 2003 by WorrelSW>; APPROVED <31 OCT 2003 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SAHARA DEVELOPMENTS
TAGS: PFOR, PBOR, MO, SS, SP, MR, AG
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006